

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) An automatic gloving apparatus comprising:

a glove conveying means configured to remove a glove stored in a glove storage portion in which a plurality of gloves are stored and convey the glove to a hand insertion position where a hand can be inserted into the glove; and

a glove holding means configured to open a mouth of the glove in the hand insertion position so that a hand can be inserted into the glove through the mouth and hold the glove with the mouth of the glove kept open; and

an air blow means configured to intermittently blow air into the glove held by the glove holding means,

wherein, ~~An automatic gloving apparatus as defined in Claim 1 in which the said~~ air blow means is configured to intermittently blow blows air into the glove on a cycle repeated with a frequency not lower than 3Hz and not higher than 6Hz.

3. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The automatic gloving apparatus as defined in Claim 2,

wherein said ~~in which the~~ air blow means is configured to intermittently blow blows air into the glove on a cycle not lower than 4Hz and not higher than 5Hz.

4. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The automatic gloving apparatus as defined in Claim 2,

~~wherein said in which the~~ air blow means comprises an electromagnetic valve which configured to intermittently open opens an air passage connecting a pressurized air source and an air blow port ~~on said~~ during each cycle.

5. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The automatic gloving apparatus as defined in Claim 2,

~~wherein said in which the~~ glove holding means comprises a movable ~~claw~~ claw, which is movable between a stand-by position where it can be inserted into a glove conveyed to the hand insertion position and a glove holding position where it can hold the glove with the mouth of the glove kept open, and

~~wherein an~~ said air blow port is provided on the movable claw.

6. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The automatic gloving apparatus as defined in Claim 5,

~~wherein said in which the~~ glove holding means is provided with a fixed ~~claw~~ claw, which is associated with the movable claw to pinch therebetween the mouth of the glove when the movable claw is moved to the glove holding position.

7. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ The automatic gloving apparatus as defined in Claim 5,

~~wherein said in which the~~ glove holding means is further provided with an expansion means ~~which expands~~ configured to expand the mouth of the glove~~[[,]]~~ in response to movement of the movable claw from the stand-by position to the glove holding position, in a direction perpendicular to the direction in which the glove holding means is configured to open opens the mouth.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) An automatic gloving apparatus comprising:

a glove conveying means configured to remove a glove stored in a glove storage portion in which a plurality of gloves are stored and convey the glove to a hand insertion position where a hand can be inserted into the glove;

a glove holding means configured to open a mouth of the glove in the hand insertion position so that a hand can be inserted into the glove through the mouth and hold the glove with the mouth of the glove kept open; and

an air blow means configured to blow air into the glove held by the glove holding means,

wherein said glove holding means comprises:

a movable claw, which is movable between a stand-by position where it can be inserted into a glove conveyed to the hand insertion position and a glove holding position where it can hold the glove with the mouth of the glove kept open; and ~~An automatic gloving apparatus as defined in Claim 8 in which the glove holding means is provided with~~

a fixed claw which is associated with the movable claw to pinch therebetween the mouth of the glove when the movable claw is moved to the glove holding position;

wherein said air blow means includes an air blow port provided on the movable claw.

10. (Currently Amended) An automatic gloving apparatus comprising:

a glove conveying means configured to remove a glove stored in a glove storage portion in which a plurality of gloves are stored and convey the glove to a hand insertion position where a hand can be inserted into the glove;

a glove holding means configured to open a mouth of the glove in the hand insertion position so that a hand can be inserted into the glove through the mouth and hold the glove with the mouth of the glove kept open; and

an air blow means configured to blow air into the glove held by the glove holding means,

wherein said glove holding means comprises:

a movable claw, which is movable between a stand-by position where it can be inserted into a glove conveyed to the hand insertion position and a glove holding position where it can hold the glove with the mouth of the glove kept open; and ~~An automatic gloving apparatus as defined in Claim 8 in which the glove holding means is further provided with~~

an expansion means which expands configured to expand the mouth of the glove[[,]] in response to movement of the movable claw from the stand-by position to the glove holding position, in a direction perpendicular to the direction in which the glove holding means opens the mouth, the air blow means including an air blow port provided on the movable claw.

11. (New) An automatic gloving apparatus comprising:

a glove storage portion where a plurality of gloves are stored;

a glove conveyor configured to remove a glove and convey the glove to a hand insertion position where a hand can be inserted into the glove; and

a glove holder configured to open a mouth of the glove in the hand insertion position so that a hand can be inserted into the glove through the mouth and hold the glove with the mouth of the glove kept open;

said glove holder including a guide rod, a pair of stationary claws spaced out from each other, and a pair of movable claws mounted on said guide rod and capable of moving from side to side relative to said guide rod between said stationary claws, for holding said mouth of the glove between said movable claws and said stationary claws;

wherein at least one movable claw of said pair of movable claws includes an air blow port on a side thereof opposite to a side holding said mouth of the glove, for blowing air into said glove.